

CABINET: MINUTES

Date: 16th December 2008

Time: 10.00 a.m. – 11.04 a.m.

Present: Councillor J M Tuck Chairman

Councillors: M Bradney, Sir P Brown, S. Criswell, M Curtis, D Harty, L W McGuire, R Pegram, J E Reynolds and F H Yeulett

Apologies: Councillors

Also in Attendance

Councillors: J Batchelor, P Downes, D Jenkins and T Orgee.

679. MINUTES 2nd DECEMBER 2008

That subject to the following amendment the minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet held on 2nd December 2008 were approved as a correct record:

The title to the appendix of the minutes being prefaced with the words “Summary of “ so that the title now reads: “Summary of comments from the local Member for West Chesterton Minute 664” to reflect it was a summary of a fuller transcript provided via e-mail to Cabinet Members on the day of the meeting.

680. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The following members declared personal interests under Paragraph 8 of the Code of Conduct.

Councillor J. Reynolds as chairman of Renewables East and as the chairman of the East of England Regional Authority (EERA) in agenda item 10 ‘Strategic Policy Advice for the Review of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Review for the East of England’.

Councillor Curtis as a member of the Regional Planning Panel in agenda item 10 ‘Strategic Policy Advice for the Review of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Review for the East of England’.

Councillor Tuck in agenda item 10 ‘Strategic Policy Advice for the Review of the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) Review for the East of England’ as a member of EERA and having been appointed by EERA to serve on a sub-committee to review the East of England Plan.

681. PETITIONS.

None received at the appropriate deadline.

CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

With the approval of Cabinet, the chairman agreed to vary the order of the agenda in order to receive the next report as the next item of business due to the other commitments of the Member presenting the next report.

682. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S (CYPS) SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - MEMBER-LED REVIEW OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AGED 0-19 (INCLUDING PRE-BIRTH INFLUENCES) AND THE RESPONSE

Cabinet welcomed Councillor Batchelor to the meeting who had accepted the invitation to present the above report in place of the chairman of the review sub-group, Councillor Johnstone, who had been unable to attend due to important personal commitments.

The review was initiated as a result of the findings of the Joint Area Review in 2007, which had highlighted some areas for improvement within performance indicators for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) including those relating to access and quality for all children, and in particular, for children placed out of County.

In undertaking the review, Scrutiny Members had sought to make recommendations to improve service delivery and outcomes for children and young people. One of the key areas was to ensure the delivery of equitable levels of services at the preventative end of the care spectrum at Tiers 1 (primary level of care) and 2 (services provided by professionals relating to workers in primary care) across the County and also to improve Tier 2 support. The suggested approach was to be achieved through the following rather than from requiring further significant investment of resources:

- promoting re-configured ways of working,
- ensuring enhanced strategic commissioning,
- closer partnership working.

It was reported that the CYPS Scrutiny Committee believed that by implementing the proposed recommendations as set out in the report, Children's Services and CAMHS would be in a stronger position to improve performance and outcomes in those areas identified as requiring strengthening.

Specific reference was made to the leadership shown by Councillor Johnstone during the review and also for the sterling support provided by Katherine Pelly, the Scrutiny officer co-ordinator.

In responding to the Scrutiny recommendations, the Cabinet Member for Children also expressed his appreciation of the work undertaken by Councillor Johnstone and the review sub-group, which he considered was a key piece of work in helping take forward the Council's objective to ensure children and young people were well served for their mental health needs. He was pleased that the main tenure of the recommendations was not seeking additional resources, but was instead seeking changes to service delivery at tiers 1 and 2 to ensure the resources and equipment were available to prevent where possible, deterioration of children to a worse level of mental health. He indicated that he would be happy to undertake joint presentations of the recommendations to other partner meetings alongside Councillor Johnstone.

In terms of questions regarding timescales on a Joint Action Plan, it was explained that it was not possible to provide these at the current time, as a number of the recommendations related to other Health Sector partners' services and would require discussions with the appropriate governing bodies. In response to other questions in respect of joint working between children's centres and NHS Nursery settings, it was confirmed these were working well, including the level of engagement of the families of young children.

It was resolved to:

- i) Support the response to the CYPS Scrutiny Committee's report as detailed in section 2 of the report and attached as an appendix to these minutes.
- ii) Support the proposal to draw-up a joint action plan that is overseen by the Joint Commissioning Group for Children's Mental Health Services (CAMH).

683. INTRODUCTION OF SELF DIRECTED SUPPORT INTO ADULT SUPPORT SERVICES

Cabinet received a report providing it with a detailed briefing in respect of the consultation outcomes relating to the introduction of Self Directed Support (SDS) across Adult Social Care Services in Cambridgeshire. Hard copies of the appendix to the report were tabled at the meeting, as due to a printing error, the hard copy version on the agenda was incomplete.

Cabinet noted that no amendments were required to the draft Policy as a result of the feedback received and that there had been no questions or challenges to specific areas of the draft. The key messages received from the consultation, as outlined in the report, were in line with the national picture, including the necessity for continuing focus on raising general awareness and understanding of Self Directed Support.

In response to questions raised regarding whether the introduction of self directed support would require additional resources for its administration and whether it would increase overall costs adding an increased burden to the budget, it was indicated that there was nothing inherent within the switch to self directed-support which would mean increases administrative costs. Instead, it would mean working differently with existing resources via changing staff working practices, making necessary changes to existing contracts with outside providers and enlisting greater community support through the links with the voluntary sector. The Council was being grant aided to pump-prime certain services that it might wish to commission, which did not exist locally, or to support change activity. It was reported that there was ongoing consultation with the voluntary sector and contractors regarding the type of responsive services that would be required to support the Self Directed Support programme, with the budget being monitored via the 'In Control Total' Project Board.

While there was the acceptance that an increased aging population would require more support, there was currently a 1.9% uplift of resources and the intention would be to rationalise service provision via the measures already indicated above, with the portfolio holder for Adults, Health and Well Being not envisaging that overall expenditure per head would increase.

It was resolved to:

- i) Note the positive results from the consultation.
- ii) Note that no minor variations had been required to the draft Policy for Self Directed Support, including client contributions, as submitted to Cabinet on 9 September 2008.
- iii) Delegate to the Director of Adult Support Services and the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing the authority to make any further revisions to contracts and contracting practice in social care to support the implementation of Self Directed Support, as indicated in the draft Policy.
- iv) Delegate the phased operational implementation of Self Directed Support to the "in Control Total" Project Board (chairman Gordon Jeyes), which reported to the Quality for Adults Programme Board (chairman Mark Lloyd).
- v) In the future, consider any further proposals for new or revised policies as necessitated by the introduction of Self Directed Support, in the light of local experience and / or further National Guidance.

684. ACCIDENT REMEDIES AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME – MEDIUM SIZED SCHEMES

Cabinet received a report which set out the progress on the medium sized traffic and safety schemes programmed for 2009/10, seeking approval of the priority of schemes for the 2009/2010 programme to be funded from the Local Transport Plan (LTP). Amanda Mays and the rest of the Road Safety Engineering Team were congratulated for their tremendous support in relation to the works being undertaken on the A1307 and A141 to help to keep the County moving safely and reduce personal accident injuries. Another member thanked Sue Parsons a lead engineer for her work in helping obtain additional funding from Huntingdonshire District Council and Huntington Town Council for the provision of a traffic signal control with pedestrian facilities at the A141 Kings Road Junction, as detailed in paragraph 2.1.6 of the report.

In reply to a question on the cost of the schemes set out in 2.1.8 (Newmarket Road Coldham's Lane junction and the A505 Flint Cross street lighting and traffic islands (which it was explained had been deferred to the 2009/10 financial year due to increased costs as detailed in the report) it was explained the first was now costed at £80k and the second at £100k.

Cabinet was reminded that on 4th December 2007, it had approved a review of speed limits on all A and B roads in the county over a 4 year period, based on accident numbers and severity. 3 of the schemes listed in Appendix A of the current report required changes to a speed limit on an A or B road and as the sites would feature in the A and B road speed limit review, it was proposed that the bids should be deferred until such time as the speed limit reviews for each of these sites was completed.

The report also sought agreement to the removal of schemes from the list as set out in appendix C of the report, in accordance with the approved process agreed at the Cabinet meeting in December 2007 (whereby schemes should be removed from the list where it had been assessed that they would have no accident reduction benefit or where they had been assessed as having an overall score of zero or less). As a result of reapplying this policy, it was agreed that 7 schemes as set out in Appendix C to the report would not be taken forward for assessment in the next year.

Whilst it was reported that there had been specific representations from a parish council supported by East Cambridgeshire Area Joint Committee requesting that Cabinet should consider an early speed limit review regarding Dullingham B1061, Cabinet was reminded of the process whereby each autumn the priorities were presented with the support of the relevant Area Joint Committees and as the list of schemes was ranked by officers in accordance with the agreed prioritisation process, using the points scoring system to rank them in terms of their effectiveness. Cabinet endorsed the overall approach that the number of schemes taken forward for construction in the 2009/10 programme should be determined by the value of budget that remained uncommitted, and that those schemes originally programmed over 2 years and those held over from 2008/9 would continue to have the first call on the budget available.

Cabinet noted that subject to the final approval of the Capital Programme (expected in January / February) and assuming a similar budget to that approved in the current year, it was anticipated that no more than 2 new schemes could be added to the programme for 2009/10. It was therefore agreed that taking into account the priorities order and the methodology used, the first two listed schemes should be taken forward for more detailed development. It was noted that once the capital position was known, the final programme would be confirmed and that if any of the two schemes ranked as priorities 1 and 2 could not be funded in 2009/10, they would be carried over into the 2010/11 programme.

It was reported that one of the local Members for Sawston had written in and e-mailed Cabinet Members supporting the inclusion of the first priority safety scheme for the 1307 Abington Village (near the pedestrian island). In summary, he had indicated that there had been four recent accidents at the pedestrian refuge island where vehicles had struck the island, with the two most recent accidents as stated in the report having resulted in a very serious injury and a fatality respectively. He requested that in amending the existing scheme, Council officers should liaise closely with both local residents along Cambridge Road and with Little Abington Parish Council. He also expressed concerns about other accident sites along the A1307 between Cambridge and Haverhill, where action was still needed to help improve safety.

It was resolved:

- i) Note the progress on programme delivery as set out in section 2.1 of the report;
- ii) Approve the priority order of medium sized schemes as set out in Appendix A of the Cabinet report subject to the deferment of those schemes requiring changes to A and B road speed limits;
- iii) Approve the commencement of feasibility work on schemes 1 and 2 in Appendix A (A1307 Abington Village (near the pedestrian island) and A47/B1187 junction, Guyhirn).

- iv) Support the relegation of schemes listed in Appendix C of the Cabinet report in accordance with the October list management procedure approved by Cabinet on 18th December 2007.

685. ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION INVESTMENT PLAN

Cabinet received for its approval the Investment Plan for the East of England Development Agency's (EEDA) funded Economic Participation programme in 2009/10. In addition, prior to the meeting, Cabinet Members had been provided with a detailed breakdown of the individual project description summaries for 2009/10 to help aid their understanding.

It was noted that the Investing in Communities (IiC) programme was the first to be delegated to the County Council, with an initial agreement for the period April 2008-March 2009. It was reported that the County Council had sub contracted the delivery of this programme to the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) in 2008/09 reflecting the fact that GCP had been delivering it directly for EEDA for the previous 4 years and had achieved excellent performance from projects in terms of both spend and outputs. One member made the point that was necessary to ensure measurable outcomes were set in order to be able to see the benefits derived from the programme expenditure.

Oral clarification was received in answer to a question raised confirming that the summary capital and revenue monies investment set out in the in Appendix 1 to the report, including those for 2009/10, was still to be agreed by the EEDA Board, which was due to meet in January. However reassurance was provided that the investment sums set out for 2009/10 were likely to be approved, with officers also being hopeful of approval in respect of the figures set out for 2010/11.

It was resolved:

To approve the 2009/10 Economic Participation (IiC) Investment Plan for Cambridgeshire, subject to the total amount available for investment being confirmed by the EEDA Board.

686. SECTION 29 COMMITTEE – (CAMBRIDGE FRINGES JOINT POLICY COMMITTEE) DRAFT REGULATIONS

Cabinet received a report in order to consider two proposed clarifications to the draft Order for the creation of the above titled Joint Policy Committee, which was being set up under section 29 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Since Cabinet's last consideration of the section 29 Committee, a series of further discussions between the three constituent authorities, the local Government Office (GoEast) and the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) had taken place in order to refine the draft Order that was to be placed before Parliament to establish the Committee.

Cabinet was reminded that setting up the Committee had been part of the requirements from Government when agreeing £1.4m of additional funding for the growth area (comprising Cambridge North West, Cambridge Northern Fringe (East) and Cambridge East) in the previous year. The three constituent authorities the County Council, South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council were required to all agree the changes and to have them approved at their respective full Council meetings. As a result,

the resolutions were amended to reflect that the final decision would need to be referred to and taken by the full Council meeting.

It was resolved to recommend to full Council for their approval the following recommendations:

- i) To approve for inclusion in the draft Order a six-month period between the date of the Order creating the Section 29 Committee and submission of its Local Development Scheme (LDS);
- ii) To approve for inclusion in the draft Order that the first meeting held after 31st May in any year be the annual meeting of the Committee.

687. LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE SETTLEMENT - COUNCIL REPRESENTATION

Cabinet received a report on the recent financial settlement for Cambridgeshire which sought guidance in respect of a possible representation letter to be sent to the Government.

It was noted that the Local Government Grant settlement for the second two years of a three-year settlement had been confirmed on 26th November resulting in the County Council's Revenue Support Grant (RSG) increases again being well below inflation in each of the next two years, providing in real terms, grant cuts in all years. It was highlighted that from 2007/08 to 2009/10 Cambridgeshire had received the lowest increase in RSG per head of all shire counties - just 13.3%, compared to an average of 20.6% and an average in the East of England of 19.7%¹. It was further noted that if the County's grant had increased at the average national rate, there would have been an additional £9m to spend on services for local residents in 2009/10.

In light of the issues contained in the report, Cabinet agreed that it wished to make extremely strong representations to the Government but required the draft response which had been included as an appendix to the report to be further amended. Cabinet agreed to revise the first paragraph of the draft in order to highlight the perversity of the current settlement at a time of economic downturn, and how the settlement for authorities such as Cambridgeshire would hinder the authorities plans to drive economic growth in the region. There was also a request to seek the support of local MPs, leaders of business and commerce across the County to lobby for changes to the current system. It was also noted that as there was now a Regional Minister, it made sense to seek a meeting with her, in order to be able to state the County's case in person.

Following the breaking press coverage the previous day with regard to the reported £50 billion Madoff investment banking fraud, the Chief Executive was able to confirm, that the County Council had not been exposed to the investment.

It was resolved to:

- i) Note the financial settlement for Cambridgeshire.
- ii) Delegate responsibility to the Leader of the Council and Director of Finance, Property and Performance to finalise the response.

¹ Suffolk 21.5%, Norfolk 24.4%, Cambridgeshire 13.3%

- iii) Agree to amend the first paragraph of the suggested response so that it now read:

“Firstly can I register my utter dismay with the local government finance settlement and our share of this settlement. In practice the grant increase offered is not sufficient to meet inflation, let alone increased demand and the impacts of the economic recession. Do you really want local public services to contract during this difficult time? Do you really wish to push the burden of taxation towards local residents?

The only saving grace from the announcement is the confirmation that in 2009/10 and 2010/11 grant figures will not be degraded further by unrealistic efficiency expectations. I am pleased that you recognise highly efficient and well managed Authorities such as Cambridgeshire are already delivering the savings from shared services and improved asset utilisation and in practice these are not additional areas to tap (despite what may have been inferred from the Chancellor’s pre-budget report.”

688. STRATEGIC POLICY ADVICE FOR THE REVIEW OF THE REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY (RSS) FOR THE EAST OF ENGLAND

Cabinet received a report providing both a summary on the progress made so far in taking forward the review of the RSS in Cambridgeshire and in order to be able consider the next steps in responding to the East of England Regional Assembly (EERA)

It was noted that EERA had commissioned a Regional Scale Development Study to look at the feasibility of a major new settlement/extension (20,000+ dwellings) for the East of England with publication of the study expected early in the new year. Additionally it had invited the development industry, through a “Call for Development Proposals”, to identify new proposals for smaller scale sustainable communities and urban extensions. These were proposals of between 2,000 and 10,000 dwellings with capacity to contribute in the period leading up to 2031 and the potential to continue growth post 2031.

It was reported that EERA had developed six regional growth scenarios to test the spatial implications of different levels of housing and jobs. Overall, EERA’s growth scenario showed an increase of up to 35% on existing RSS housing targets in Cambridgeshire. The County Council had been asked to provide initial information/policy advice by 7th January 2009 and sub regional policy advice by 6th February 2009. For the reasons set out in the report, it was agreed that it would only be possible to provide a factual progress report for submission to meet the EERA deadlines of January and February.

It was reported that an assessment was currently being undertaken on how well the existing spatial strategy for Cambridgeshire up to 2021 was working and whether there was capacity to roll forward to 2031 increased numbers of houses and jobs. It was noted that no assessment had yet been possible regarding the overall scale and distribution of longer-term growth within Cambridgeshire. Cabinet recognised and supported the view that it would not be possible to provide a full response to EERA’s Development Options Consultation, for which the timescale was currently May 2009, as the response would be based on the findings of the recently commissioned Cambridgeshire Development Study.

In addition, Cabinet noted details of a newly created joint member public forum titled 'Joint Cambridgeshire RSS Review Panel' (CRESSP) which included cross party and all council representation and which had already held its first meeting to discuss the progress of the review.

In response to a query, it was clarified that the workshop referred to in paragraph 2.3 would take place in March.

It was resolved:

- i) To approve the Draft "Strategic Objectives for the RSS Review in Cambridgeshire" (as set out in Section 3 & Appendix A of the Cabinet report).
- ii) To agree to delegate authority to the Lead Member for Growth, Infrastructure and Highways in consultation with the Deputy Chief Executive (OECS) to submit updated progress reports to meet EERA's initial deadlines (7 Jan 09 & 6 Feb 09) based on the contents of this report, and ongoing joint partner work and the Joint Cambridgeshire RSS Review Panel (CReSSP).
- iii) To note that the final response to EERA will follow once agreed by Cabinet at a future meeting following the completion of the technical work.

689. CAMBRIDGESHIRE GUIDED BUSWAY

Cabinet received a report setting out the potential risks in respect of the construction of the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway and to consider proposed actions to manage and mitigate the risks. In introducing the report the Cabinet Member for Growth, Infrastructure and Highways paid tribute to the exceptional quality of the work currently carried out by the contractor.

It was noted that the contractor, BAM Nuttall²(BNL), was forecasting that the cost of constructing the Cambridgeshire Guided Busway (CGB) would exceed their tender price and therefore the Council and contractors were in discussions in order to address this issue. Officers were able to assure Members that the original contract agreed had proved to be robust and that the contractor had been unsuccessful in passing on risks. If, as was expected, this remained the case, the Guided Busway would be delivered on budget.

However while the Guided Busway was currently on budget, until such time as there was absolute certainty of the outcome, the situation did represent some small risk to the County Council in terms of both the ultimate cost and the management of the interim cash flow. Cabinet therefore agreed to adopt a cautionary approach in order to protect its financial interests and council taxpayers, whilst the cost over-runs could be further explored and the robustness of the contract re-confirmed. As a result, Cabinet agreed to a series of actions to manage and minimise the Council's exposure to the risks, which included deferring

² Edmund Nuttall Ltd are a subsidiary of the Dutch Royal BAM Group and have recently changed their name to reflect this.

certain non-essential elements of the project, until such time as the risks were sufficiently mitigated.

The local member for Willingham provided comments, which summarised, indicated that while she understood the reasons for the changes to the scheme she did express her disappointment that they would result in a reduction in quality at park and ride sites, albeit only on a temporary basis. She made the point that Cambridgeshire had always prided itself on the quality of park and ride services and she hoped that proper facilities would be built at Longstanton as soon as possible. In response, the point was highlighted that the buildings were only being deferred and were not being deleted. To help illustrate the quality of the temporary provision being proposed, officers passed around pictures of the temporary toilet facilities that were likely to be erected.

It was resolved to:

- i) Note the position in respect of CGB construction costs and the steps being taken to manage the contract risks;
- ii) Approve deferring the provision by BAM Nuttall Ltd of a blacktop surface to the cycleway between Cambridge and Longstanton until immediately after the Busway is open;
- iii) Approve deferring construction by BAM Nuttall Ltd of the Park and Ride buildings at St Ives and Longstanton until there is greater certainty over Guided Busway costs and provide temporary buildings in the interim;
- iv) Authorise officers to pay actual costs to BAM Nuttall above the previously approved contract value as required by the contract; and
- v) Adjust prudential borrowing assumptions associated with the project to deal with the cash flow implications of recommendation iv and delays to section 106 receipts such that there will be no net cost to the Authority as a result of building the guideway.

690. DRAFT AGENDA FOR 15TH JANUARY CABINET MEETING

The draft agenda was noted with the following changes notified since the publication of the Agenda:

An additional report on: 'Third Sector Emergency Funding'.

Chairman
15th January 2009

PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS AND AGREED RESPONSE IN BOLD

Number Recommendation

- R1 We recommend that Children's Services work together to ensure that, as far as possible, Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Care Pathways and the Model of Staged Intervention are aligned.

This is agreed and the Joint Commissioning Group for Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service will take a lead on this. The Mental Health Trust has formally signed up to the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). This should result in an alignment of the description of levels of service within the Model of Staged Intervention and the levels currently described by the Mental Health Trust.

- R2 We recommend that, in the longer term, the County Council, in conjunction with the Youth Justice Board and the Department for Children, Schools and Families, ensures that work takes place to enable the automatic electronic transfer of information from the Youth Offending Service's assessment tool, ASSET, to the Common Assessment Framework.

This is supported in principle. ASSET provides a more detailed specialist assessment, which is complimentary to the Common Assessment Framework. There may be some difficulties in achieving electronic transfer at this stage due to system incompatibilities. It is agreed that the flagging system on 'ONE' can be used to indicate that an ASSET assessment has been completed and that a copy needs to be obtained when completing a Common Assessment Framework. Work will also be carried out to learn from good practice in other Local Authorities who are also addressing this issue.

- R7 We recommend that a commitment is made to strategic and coherent planning and commissioning of Tier 2 services across the county. This would be assisted by:

- Further investment in Tier 2 services, to enable a consistent service to be delivered to children and families across the county and to relieve pressure on CAMHS services at Tier 3
- The establishment of a group of representatives from NHS Cambridgeshire, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust and the County Council to work together to identify creative solutions to funding services, drawing on models such as that used in Suffolk.

The Joint Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service Commissioning Group has recently received a report of a review of Tier 2 services and will take the findings and recommendations from the member led review with the findings from the Tier 2 review and agree an action plan. The issue of inequalities in terms of geographical coverage of services will also be considered as part of that process.

- R8 We recommend that NHS Cambridgeshire and Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust consider developing a lead role/champion for Tier 2 services.

This paper will be discussed by the Boards for NHS Cambridgeshire and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust and they will consider this recommendation.

- R10 We recommend that the County Council ensures knowledge about the materials and services offered by the Personal Social and Health Education Service are widely disseminated throughout Children's Services.

This recommendation is supported. Materials produced specifically for schools may need to be adapted for a wider audience and cost implications considered as this is a traded service.

- R11 We recommend that the County Council ensures, through the Building Schools for the Future programme and other relevant initiatives, that new communities and new schools are designed to ensure that the environment promotes good emotional health and well being - for example through including adequate facilities for play.

This is supported. The work to develop the Building Schools for the Future Programme has involved detailed participation work with children and young people to ensure their input to the design of the schools with the promotion of pupil well being in mind. This work will be used to inform other capital investment. A conference is planned for January 2009 to develop proposals for the way in which the County Council and OCYPS can respond positively to the growth agenda and the needs of children and young people in new communities. This issue has been identified as a key priority for the next Children and Young People's Plan and the conference will be an opportunity to develop our response to this recommendation.

- R12 We recommend that the County Council, NHS Cambridgeshire and Cambridgeshire's schools invest further in the development of a full range of School-Based Health Services, to ensure that all secondary schools across the county have adequate and consistent levels of multi-agency health input to promote and support emotional health and well being.

NHS Cambridgeshire will consider this recommendation. In addition, the contribution of OCYPS Locality Teams needs to be recognised as making a significant contribution to the promotion of health and well being and they work closely with health colleagues. Locality Allocation and Referral meetings are becoming a recognised mechanism for securing input from the necessary professionals when a school recommends that additional support is needed for a child or family.

- R13 We recommend that the Local Authority and NHS Cambridgeshire work together across all Children's Centres to ensure that the key links already being developed between Children's Centre staff and midwives, health visitors and

school nurses are embedded within all Children's Centres. This will ensure that Children's Centres are provided with information about children and families to enable them accurately to target their services to those families most in need of their support.

This is supported. A joint specification is being developed between the NHS and OCYPS which will make clear what elements of health service provision are to be made available from Children's Centres taking into account the role of school nurses, midwives and health visitors. Information systems are also being developed to ensure an automatic transfer of information from the health system to the Children's Centre about vulnerable families.

- R18 We recommend that the newly established Transitions Board be commissioned to undertake a full review of support for young people aged 16-17 with mental health needs, as they make the transition from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services to Adult Mental Health Services. We recommend that this review be reported back to the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership.

This is supported and this proposal will be proposed to the Chair of the Transitions Board with the full support of OCYPS.

RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO ONGOING WORK AND AGREED RESPONSE IN BOLD

Recommendation

- R3 We recommend that the County Council undertake further research into the extent of young people leaving custody with trauma, to enable the identification of relevant interventions and support for these young people.

This recommendation is supported. The Head of Youth and Participation will be asked to consider this in more detail and ensure that the evidence available is being applied to decisions about appropriate interventions.

- R4 We recommend that the County Council continues to work to break down barriers between health services and other agencies with regard to sharing information, for example through continuing to give priority to the joint work between Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust and Children's Services to embed the use of the Common Assessment Framework.

This is supported and in line with the work OCYPS is currently doing on implementation of the Common Assessment Framework and the ONE information system. However this must be seen as a shared responsibility across all partners.

- R5 We recommend that the County Council considers extending the remit of Parent Support Advisers to work with children at nursery schools across the county.

In Cambridgeshire there are only 6 nursery schools, so the majority of children of this age would not benefit, since most are within private,

voluntary or independent provision. Parents Support Advisers are already meeting a high level of demand and it is the view of OCYPS that it would not be appropriate to extend the age range they cover. There has been significant investment by central government in Children's Centres and these will make a significant contribution to improving outcomes for pre school children.

- R6 We recommend that the County Council carefully analyses the outcome of the pilot scheme by the PSHE Service to adapt the Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning materials for use in Nursery settings. If this pilot scheme is successful, we recommend that it is extended for use in Nursery Schools across the county.

Nursery schools only cover a very small number of children (see R5) and also the recently launched Early Years Foundation Stage provides clear guidance to all those providing for children 0-reception about how personal, social and emotional development should be addressed. The Early Years and Childcare Service is positively promoting this and there is government funding to support training for Social and Emotional Aspects of Development for all providers.

- R9 We recommend that the County Council continues to focus attention on reducing vacancies in the Children's Social Care workforce.

This is supported and a detailed work programme has been established that ensures a clear and strong focus on recruitment and retention of social workers. The project plan is available on request.

- R14 We recommend that an assessment is undertaken as to whether training for front-line staff who provide universal services is adequate to equip them to identify early signs of mental health problems and provide appropriate information and support to the young people who access their services.

This will be explored as part of the appraisal process and any training needs will be incorporated in the Training and Development Programme that is available for OCYPS staff, with the support of the Mental Health Trust.

- R15 We recommend CAMHS and the County Council work together to develop further a comprehensive programme of training on how to identify and support mental health and well being for staff working regularly with young people at the universal level/Tiers 1 and 2.

This is supported and will be addressed through the process described in R14.

- R16 We recommend that the County Council and NHS Cambridgeshire work together to provide more information to schools, GPs and other universal/primary services to ensure that staff is aware of the range of services available to support young people's emotional health and well-being.

This is supported and will be achieved through the work OCYPS is doing

on the development of a Families Information Service for children, young people, parents and carers and professionals and partners. The “Guide to Rough Times” is also to be developed across Cambridgeshire - this is a paper and web-based source of information that has been used to good effect in Hunts for several years by professionals and young people.

- R17 We recommend that the County Council continues and completes its work to make contracts with the Voluntary Sector more robust and include realistic expectations with regard to outputs and outcomes.

There is a detailed programme of work currently being taken forward that will result in more explicit service level agreements that are outcome based and longer term.

- R19 We recommend that the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust and Addenbrooke’s hospital work together, building on existing good work, to agree a revised out of hours arrangement that focuses holistically on the needs of young people (particularly the 16-17 age group).

The Foundation Trust will discuss this recommendation.